



Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope



First Church in Windsor, UCC
February 14, 10 a.m.

Jazz/Mardi Gras Sunday

Prelude

Lift Every Voice and Sing
By John Rosamond Johnson
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Welcome

Introit

Jesus the Light of the World
Words by Charles Wesley
Music by George Elderkin

**We will follow the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright,
shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the light of the world.**

Call to Worship

- One: God, we revel in your expansive grace; we bask in your boundless love;
Two: We delight in the excess of your blessings to us. As Christ turned water to wine at Cana, so you are spreading out a bountiful feast for Your people.
One: We acknowledge that your kingdom is always expanding, always welcoming, always inviting
Two: Always growing, always blessing, always filling.
One: We acknowledge that in your presence there is a joyful song, a chorus of worship, a fountain of life.
Two: The universe is bursting; our hearts are plump, satisfied with your love.
One: Our lives are filled up, ripe with your blessing. May we live our lives in the fullness of joy.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
African American Spiritual
Public domain

**Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.
Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.**

**I looked over Jordan, and what did I see, coming for to carry me home?
A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home.**

Refrain

**If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home,
tell all my friends I'm coming too, coming for to carry me home.**

Refrain

**I'm sometimes up, I'm sometimes down, coming for to carry me home.
But still my soul feels heavenly bound, coming for to carry me home.**

Refrain

Prayer of Invocation

Amazing God, you visited your son Jesus upon us, so draw us together in worship. Look upon us, for we are paralyzed in so many ways and in need of healing. May your Word minister to us in such a way that we can stand up for what is right and good. Help us to walk courageously where you would have us go, offering healing to a hurting world. Amen.

Prayer of our Savior

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Black History Month Mission Moment

Scripture

Mark 2: 1-12

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ²So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁶Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷"Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" —he said to the paralytic— ¹¹"I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home." ¹²And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Sermon

Pastor Nicole

"A Persistent Faith"

Hymn

When the Saints Go Marching In
African American Spiritual
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**O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go marching in,
Lord, I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in.**

**O when the sun begins to shine, O when the sun begins to shine,
Lord, I want to be in that number, when the sun begins to shine.**

**O when the trumpet sounds the call, O when the trumpet sounds the call,
Lord, I want to be in that number, when the trumpet sounds the call.**

**O on that hallelujah day, O on that hallelujah day,
Lord, I want to be in that number, on that hallelujah day.**

**O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go marching in,
Lord, I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in.**

Sharing Our Star Gifts

Black History Month Mission Moment

“Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

When God is a Child
Words by Brian Wren
Music by Joan Collier Fogg
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Announcements

Benediction

Postlude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
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Many thanks to our jazz musicians:

Michael Novak

Richard Thornburg

Jenn Zirbel

Jeff Zirbel

Castella Copeland